

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 9, 2009

Mr. Ray LaHood  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Mr. Joseph C. Szabo  
Administrator  
Federal Railroad Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood and Administrator Szabo:

As Members of Congress from the state of California, we write in strong support of California's high-speed passenger rail applications for federal stimulus funding. In February 2009, Congress passed and the President signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which included \$8 billion dollars for competitive high-speed rail grants.

When it comes to constructing high-speed rail, California is far ahead of any other state or region. Californians last year voted for more than \$9 billion in bond funding toward California's high-speed rail and became the only state in the nation to have passed a high-speed rail measure. Planning and engineering work for our 800-mile system has been ongoing for more than 13 years and significant environmental review work has already been completed. The state is ready to move on segments that can be operational, produce revenue and lay the groundwork for completion of the entire train system. California is, therefore, uniquely positioned to receive and quickly utilize stimulus funds.

Along with the state's dollar-for-dollar matching funds, the federal funding California is seeking would create approximately 130,000 quality jobs throughout the state, including regions that have been hit hard by our economic downturn.

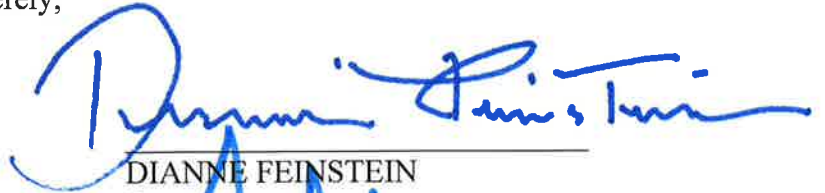
- The preliminary engineering and environmental work funding encompassing the entire route from **Sacramento to San Diego** would be immediately responsible for **12,000 well-paying jobs**.
- The design and construction of the **San Francisco to San Jose section** would directly create 11,400 jobs and be responsible for a total of **34,200 jobs** beginning immediately.
- The design and construction of the **Los Angeles to Anaheim section** would directly create 17,900 jobs and be responsible for a total of **53,700 jobs** beginning in 2011.
- The design and construction of the **Fresno to Bakersfield section** would directly create 5,500 jobs and be responsible for a total of **16,500 jobs** beginning in 2012.
- The design and construction of the **Merced to Fresno section** would directly create 3,500 jobs and be responsible for a total of **10,500 jobs** beginning in 2012.

Investing in high-speed rail in California will change the fabric of our state and our country, and will help in the development of jobs and local economies. This application for federal funds has the support of the voters, the federal and state legislators, local governments, and the business, labor and environmental communities. We, therefore, urge you to fully fund California's high-speed rail applications.

Sincerely,



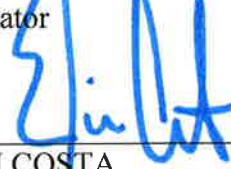
NANCY PELOSI  
Member of Congress



DIANNE FEINSTEIN  
Senator



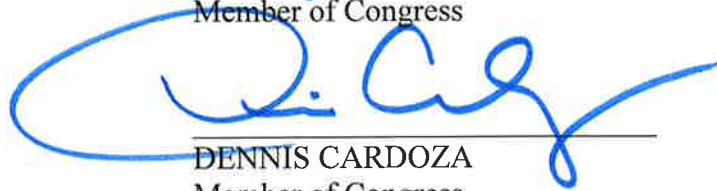
BARBARA BOXER  
Senator




JIM COSTA  
Member of Congress



HOWARD BERMAN  
Member of Congress



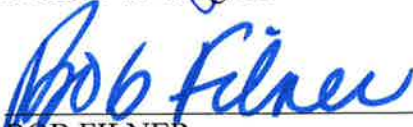
DENNIS CARDOZA  
Member of Congress



JUDY CHU  
Member of Congress



SAM FARR  
Member of Congress



BOB FILNER  
Member of Congress



JANE HARMAN  
Member of Congress



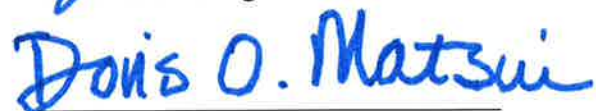
MIKE HONDA  
Member of Congress



ZOE LOFGREN  
Member of Congress



JERRY MCNERNEY  
Member of Congress



DORIS MATSUI  
Member of Congress



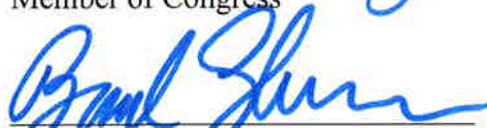
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